

United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

Weekly Report: 29 Aug - 4 Sep 2021

1. On 1 September 2021 the United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration issued Maritime Advisory 2021-009 Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Aden, Bab al Mandeb Strait, Red Sea and Western Indian Ocean -Threats to Commercial Vessels. For details follow link: <https://bit.ly/3tgbW3W>
2. The 1 September 2021 saw a change in the Indian Ocean HRA come in to effect which was agreed by international ship owners' associations. See [UKMTO notice 001/AUG/2021](#) and [media article e.](#)
3. The Saudi Border Guard handed over command of CTF152 to the Kuwait Naval Force on 2 September 2021 ending their first deployment in command of a CMF task force. See [media article a.](#)

Warnings, Advisories and Notices

Please see below a list of all recent and extant UKMTO warnings, advisories and notices. Full details can be found on the website [UKMTO](#). UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

Warnings		
No Warnings issued this week.		

Advisories		
No Advisories issued this week.		

Notices		
Number	Category	Remarks
008/FEB/2021	Transiting the Strait of Hormuz	In force until further notice
001/AUG/2021	Change to Indian Ocean HRA	Released on behalf of Industry
001/SEP/2021	UKMTO (Dubai) Vessel Briefings	Supersedes Notice 010/FEB/2021
002/SEP/2021	Military Exercise	Cancel 301800UTCSEP21

For further information or queries regarding UKMTO warnings, advisories or notices call: +44 2392 222060.

UKMTO 24/7 contact

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Open Source Media Articles

UKMTO is not responsible for the accuracy of these open source media articles.

a. Task Force 152 holds change of command

Kuwait Naval Force Col. Ebraheem Al-Dawai relieved Saudi Border Guard Capt. Ali bin Madi Al-Qahtani as commander of Combined Task Force (CTF) 152 during a ceremony at Naval Support Activity Bahrain.

2 Sep 21 - Combined Maritime Force (CMF): <https://bit.ly/3kSC0yl>

b. Somaliland gears up for 'healthy' battle of Ports.

Berbera is shaping up to regain its centuries-old trade lustre, setting up a battle of ports over a maritime thoroughfare traversed by about a third of ships worldwide. The revamped port of Berbera now offers an alternative to Djibouti as a gateway to lucrative trade routes through the Suez Canal.

2 Sep 21 - MENAFN: <https://bit.ly/38M4dkx>

c. US and Israeli Navy conduct exercise under new US central command.

U.S. and Israeli naval forces staged a joint exercise on August 31, in the Red Sea. While it is not the first exercise between the two countries' navies, it comes at a time of heightened tensions in the region.

1 Sep 21 - Maritime Executive: <https://bit.ly/2WUyH1t>

d. Unique multi-carrying vessel visits Arabian Gulf for the first time

The Topaz Moskva navigated the Suez Canal on her way from the Mediterranean Sea, a first for this vessel category which are renowned for superior performance in shallow and narrow waterways. Additionally, the ship crossed into the Arabian Gulf during monsoon season, an atypical journey for this ship category – demonstrating the true versatility of MCVs.

1 Sep 21 - Khaleej Times: <https://bit.ly/2WLvstr>

e. Indian Ocean piracy 'High Risk Area' reduced.

The coalition of international ship owners' associations has agreed to reduce the HRA (High Risk Area) to a smaller area encompassing the EEZs (Exclusive Economic Zones) off Somalia and Yemen and the approaches to the Persian Gulf. EEZs extend 380 kilometers off the coast and the new HRA found that this is where the piracy risk remains.

31 Aug 21 - Hellenic Shipping News: <https://bit.ly/3kSyrbx>

f. Kenya's valuable sandalwoods are being uprooted to near extinction

East Africa's endangered sandalwood tree is being illegally harvested at a rate that could see it becoming extinct. The misuse of this valuable resource is causing a loss of biodiversity and a source of medicine for local communities.

30 Aug 21 - Institute for Security Studies: <https://bit.ly/3tg1wBj>

g. World's largest containership transits Suez Canal

Taiwan shipping company Evergreen Marine's newest container ship "Ever Ace" has successfully passed through the Suez Canal breaking a record for the largest container ship to pass through the waterway on 28 August. With a rated capacity of 23,992 TEU, she has the largest carrying capacity of any containership, approximately 30 more TEU than the HMM *Algeciras* and her sister ships .

30 Aug 21 - Maritime Executive: <https://bit.ly/2YhHvyQ>

30 Aug 21 - Taiwan English News: <https://bit.ly/2WLyQEF>

h. How could all the world's ships not be able to deliver our Christmas gifts on time?

Pandemic-related product shortages from computer chips to construction materials, were supposed to be resolved by now. Many popular Christmas presents are imported from overseas - toys, electronics, leisure equipment and homewares. That means they come to us by sea however, the global shipping system is caught in a perfect storm of pandemic-related events, from Delta outbreaks and port closures to freighter scarcity.

30 Aug 21 - New York Times: <https://nyti.ms/3h0inDg>

29 Aug 21 - Brisbane Times: <https://bit.ly/3n33BiQ>

Engagement and Visits

The OIC met with Katherine Yakunchenkova from Al Safina Security and Andrias Smith from NYK shipping last week.

To contact our Dubai office, arrange a visit or request a briefing please contact Lt Cdr Sam Yee by telephone: +971 (0)501 898 389 or email: dubai-oic@ukmto.org

Maritime Security Briefs

Company Security Officers and Masters wishing to receive the latest regional maritime security brief should contact Lt Cdr Sam Yee email: dubai-oic@ukmto.org

Date	Location	Vessel
30/08/2021	JEBEL ALI	GFS RUBY
30/08/2021	JEBEL ALI	FAIRCHEM KATANA
30/08/2021	JEBEL ALI	SONGA NUERNBERG
30/08/2021	JEBEL ALI	DA YUAN HU
02/09/2021	JEBEL ALI	HANKUK CHEMI
02/09/2021	JEBEL ALI	BERMUDA
03/09/2021	JEBEL ALI	GLORY LOONG
03/09/2021	JEBEL ALI	MSC CLEA

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Additional Sources of Information

[United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations \(UKMTO\)](#)
[Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa \(MSCHOA\)](#)
[International Maritime Security Construct \(IMSC\)](#)
[International Maritime Bureau \(IMB\) Live Piracy Reports](#)
[United States Dept of Transportation Maritime Administration](#)
[Combined Maritime Forces \(CMF\)](#)
[Maritime Global Security](#)
[Oil Companies International Marine Forum \(OCIMF\)](#)
[Middle East Navigation Aids Service \(MENAS\)](#)
[United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#)

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